THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Indo-US military cooperation

4191. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether US Army Chief had visited India in the first week of February, 2003;

(b) if so, whether he had sought deeper military-to-military cooperation with his Indian counterpart;

(c) whether the Army Headquarters had given a presentation on militancy in Kashmir;

(d) if so, whether US Army Chief was apprised of the weapons factories allegedly springing up in Pakistan to "aid terrorism";

(e) whether any other issues were discussed with him; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No specific mention of 'weapons factories allegedly springing up in Pakistan to aid terrorists' was made. However, details of Pakistan's support to all agencies abetting terrorism in India (including supply of weapons, ammunitions and explosives) were brought out clearly.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The other issues discussed were

(i) India's Security Concerns.

(ii) Indo-US Defence Relations.

(iii) Situation in Afghanistan and Iraq.

(iv) Global Terrorism